



Prudence Tunnadine

Founder of the Institute of Psychosexual Medicine

Prue Tunnadine played a key role in founding the Institute of Psychosexual Medicine in 1974, and was an authority on treating sexual problems.

She was born Lesley Prudence Dundas Bellam in a nursing home in Chiswick, head first into a commode, which she thought explained her very singular brain. Her father worked in the rag trade and was an army reservist. When war broke out he was commissioned into the royal tank regiment and the family moved to Sussex, where they had previously spent their holidays.

She was educated at Bedford Park High School for Girls and Chichester High School, where she excelled in everything except needlework, was embarrassed at having to stand on the stage wearing rosettes on prizegiving day, and was talkative and boisterous.

After the war her father was posted to India, and she remained with an aunt and uncle to do her A levels. She then went out to India, via Suez, on the troopship *Britannic* from Liverpool. She had a wonderful 18 months, visiting hill stations, doing voluntary work as a teacher and in her father's office,

and being courted by droves of young men. On her return—on another troopship, via Mombasa and Naples—she applied to Guy's. She went to the interview in cocktail dress, heels, and a fur stole: the few other girl applicants were in school uniform.

She had a good time at medical school, living on coffee and cigarettes, and married a fellow student, David Tunnadine, in 1952. She did her house appointments and senior house officer jobs at Guy's and its satellite hospitals in north Kent. Her husband went into general practice, and she, by now with children, abandoned her idea of a career in gynaecology and did locums and family planning sessions.

The only other part time work available for women doctors in the 1960s was child welfare clinics. But as the pill became more widely available, women patients wanting non-judgmental contraceptive advice, or who wanted to discuss a gynaecological problem, soon learnt that family planning doctors were very approachable, mostly female, and could be consulted without a referral from their general practitioner. Their male partners made the same discovery. Prue soon realised that patients brought their emotional and sexual distress to the family planning clinic as physical symptoms or contraceptive needs, often voicing these concerns during an intimate examination.

Psychoanalysis was then in the intellectual forefront and Michael Balint's ideas were in the air. Prue and some like-minded colleagues turned to Tom Main, a psychoanalyst and follower of Balint, who had been running training seminars on the doctor-patient relationship. Main encouraged Prue and some others to lead the seminars. He then led groups of leaders, and the two developed the tiered training structure that still exists at the Institute of Psychosexual Medicine. They both discouraged the idea that they were gurus and that students should metaphorically sit at their feet.

Prue understood and taught the need to use all the skills of physical doctoring while never forgetting, or allowing her

pupils to forget, à la Balint, that doctors should always ask themselves what is happening for the one troubled person in front of them and how they can best reflect it back to give the patient insight into the difficulty. She drew a clear distinction between this body-mind doctoring and other disciplines such as psychotherapy and sex therapy, the skills she used being specific to doctors and other professionals with a licence to examine the body.

The psychosexual clinics started by the Family Planning Association, probably with Prue's involvement, were taken over by the NHS in 1974, when she and others started the Institute of Psychosexual Medicine. She also established a private practice in Harley Street around this time. She had already published her first book, *Contraception and Sexual Life* (1971).

She was scientific director of the institute from 1990 to 2000 and continued to hone the skills of psychosexual medicine and to teach them. She wrote three further books—*Sense and Nonsense about Sex* (1981), *The Making of Love* (1984) and *Insights into Troubled Sexuality* (1991). In *The Making of Love* she wrote, "This book is not about sexual performance. It is about people who ... have not been able to rejoice in their own sexuality, or who have sought help to do so."

She was terrified of public speaking but did it well. Her life was one of passion, and her heroes were George Best, Muhammed Ali, Franz Klammer, Nelson Mandela, Billy Beaumont, Gareth Edwards, and Seve Ballesteros. She played golf and bridge, and had a go at boogie-boarding when she was 75.

Two years ago she was diagnosed with bowel cancer. She took it well, apart from resenting the stolen time. Divorced in 1978, she leaves three sons and a daughter.

Caroline Richmond

Lesley Prudence Dundas Bellam, consultant in psychosexual medicine (b 1928; q Guy's Hospital 1953), d 15 December 2006.

Charles Alan Blake Clemetson



Professor emeritus Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans (b 1923; q Oxford 1948; FRCOG, FRCSC, FACOG), died from heart failure after a heart attack on 30 August 2006.

Charles Alan Blake Clemetson ("Alan") moved to Saskatoon, Canada, in 1958 as assistant professor of obstetrics and gynaecology, where he started his work on vitamin C in studying the capillary strength of the Inuit. After appointments in San Francisco and Brooklyn, New York, he was professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at Tulane University, 1981-90. An original thinker and not afraid of controversy, Alan wrote on the role of vitamin C in the shaken baby syndrome when he was professor emeritus. In a work of three volumes he also noted that subclinical vitamin C deficiency is comparatively common and often associated with raised blood histamine concentrations. He leaves three children and six grandchildren.

Michael Innis
F Edward Yazbak

Ian Thomas Twistington Higgins

Professor emeritus of epidemiology and environmental and industrial health University of Michigan (b 1919; q London Hospital 1942; MD, FRCP), d 26 March 2006.

Ian Higgins was an international expert on the epidemiology of chronic respiratory diseases, cancer, coronary heart disease, and other diseases resulting from occupational and environmental exposures to hazardous

materials. A member of the scientific staff of the Medical Research Council during 1953-63 at the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit in Wales, Ian emigrated to the United States in 1963 to a professorship at the University of Pittsburgh. In 1967 he joined the University of Michigan until his retirement in 1985. He was elected to the fellowship of many distinguished organisations and served on many committees, including the National Academy of Sciences and the National Institutes of Health. He leaves a wife, Millicent; two sons; and a granddaughter.

Millicent Higgins

Frank Ian Lee



Former consultant physician Blackpool, Wyre, and Fylde district (b 1930; q London Hospital 1957; MD, FRCP), died from pancreatic cancer on 13 May 2007.

Frank Ian Lee planned to study at the London School of Economics but changed his mind in the army. He was appointed consultant physician with an interest in gastroenterology in 1967. Undergraduate and then postgraduate tutor for students who came to the hospital from Manchester in the early 1970s, he was also tutor when the medical education centre was developed at Blackpool. He developed the first sizeable gastroenterology investigation centre outside a teaching hospital in the United Kingdom. He published and lectured widely, and was president of the North of England Gastroenterology Society in 1985. Frank had a lifelong interest in sport and natural history and was active in his local Methodist church. He leaves a wife, Pamela; four children; and seven grandchildren.

Pamela Lee

Margaret Lauretta Mabel Manford



Former consultant anaesthetist Queen Mary's Hospital for Children Carshalton (b 1914; q Royal Free 1947; FFARCS), died from bronchopneumonia on 25 February 2007.

Margaret Manford taught physical education for four years before taking up medicine and then, from the outset, pursued a career entirely in paediatric anaesthesia. Paediatric surgery in the 1950s and 1960s embraced all surgical specialties and needed equally versatile anaesthetists. Margaret responded to each new challenge with notable dedication. She always involved her trainees in research, publishing many papers with them on a wide variety of subjects. In 1969 she visited Vietnam and later Bangladesh to work there. After retirement, Margaret spent several years working with the blood transfusion service and subsequently with disadvantaged families in the Kent family scheme. Her husband, Jim, predeceased her. There were no children.

Dai Davies

Barry Windsor Roper



Former consultant radiologist Neath General, Port Talbot, and Ystradgynlais Hospitals (b 1934; q Birmingham 1957; MRCP, DMRD), died from peritonitis and caecal perforation of diverticular disease on 22 April 2007.

Barry Roper first pursued a career in general medicine, becoming a senior registrar in cardiology at Dudley Road Hospital, but switched to radiology in 1964. He was appointed consultant radiologist at Bridgend General Hospital in August 1968. Transferring to Neath General, covering Port Talbot, Cymla, and Ystradgynlais, he was the only radiologist on site for 16 years. He had a special interest in fetal abnormalities and introduced ultrasonography as well as angiography into the area. He retired in 1999. Other interests included French, which he spoke fluently, and the English language. He leaves a wife, Irene; two children; and a grandson.

Irene Roper

Graham Waterson Somerville

Former general practitioner Hull (b 1934; q Edinburgh 1960), died from cellulitis, sepsis, and acute renal failure together with Parkinson's disease on 29 April 2007.

After national service in the Royal Engineers, Graham Somerville decided to follow his father and his brother by studying medicine at Edinburgh. He went to Nassau, the Bahamas, with his wife and two young daughters for junior hospital posts for two years. He returned to Hull to join his father and brother as a general practitioner in 1963. In 1974 he had early symptoms of Parkinson's disease but with treatment continued working until 1986, when he retired as a result of his increasing disability. For a few years he was able to indulge in his hobbies, including antiques. He leaves a wife, Josie; three children; and nine grandchildren.

Neil Somerville

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